

underlines the importance of avian collections held in Italy (Violani & Barbagli 2003).

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## The correct name of the Guianan Toucanet: *Selenidera culik* (Wagler) not *S. piperivorus* (Linnaeus)

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Pacheco & Whitney (2006) sought to change the names of three Neotropical birds. Two of these may be addressed at a later stage, but this note discusses the case of the bird currently known as *Selenidera culik* (Wagler, 1827), which Pacheco & Whitney sought to replace with *Ramphastos piperivorus* Linnaeus, a name rejected

by Peters (1930) for sufficient reasons. Pacheco & Whitney based their too-briefly worded case on Peters (1948), apparently overlooking the earlier reference. In seeking to claim that Linnaeus' use of *piperivorus* in 1766 was justified and confirmed the identity of his earlier use of the name in 1758, they assumed that, if Linnaeus used a name in different 'editions' of the *Systema Naturae* he must have intended the same taxon, and that these 'editions' represent versions of the same work. In fact, the different 'editions' of the *Systema Naturae* have always, correctly, been treated as separate works for the purposes of nomenclature.

Peters (1930) correctly noted that *Ramphastos piperivorus* Linnaeus, 1758, is unidentifiable: the description '*R[amphastos] rostro nigro: carina crassissima*', cannot be identified as any known toucan and whilst *R. piperivorus* Linnaeus, 1766, is identifiable with *Selenidera culik*, it is preoccupied by the unidentifiable name of 1758. Unfortunately, Peters (1948) did not cite his earlier paper as a reference either for the toucan family or any of its constituent genera. It was even more misleading not to cite it when rejecting the name *piperivorus*. The paper is referenced only as a footnote on p.83 (where, incidentally, it is misquoted as vol. 48), regarding another unidentifiable species, *R. piscivorus*. Peters' footnote on p.79 is therefore unsatisfactory as it stands, and has clearly misled several authors into believing that he was wrong in considering Linnaeus' name unidentifiable. Nevertheless, Pacheco & Whitney have not produced convincing evidence to negate Peters' decision to reject *Ramphastos piperivorus* Linnaeus, in favour of the earliest available name, *Pteroglossus Culik* Wagler = *Selenidera culik* (Wagler).

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